with the Department's record in both our § 271 and line sharing proceedings and demonstrate that VZ-MA is, and has been, operationally ready to process commercial volumes of line sharing orders. In addition, VZ-MA has taken several steps designed to improve its line sharing service, such as: (a) reinspecting its central offices to ensure its work was performed properly; (b) modifying its collocation inspection process to incorporate line sharing-specific collocation builds;¹¹⁸ (c) implementing flow-through capability for line sharing orders;¹¹⁹ (d) staffing at levels capable of processing over 60,000 line sharing and unbundled xDSL orders from New England and New York per month;¹²⁰ and (e) performing a "splitter signature test" to determine whether the splitter, which is necessary for line sharing, is functioning on the line.¹²¹

C. <u>Line Splitting</u>

Since the date that the Department filed Reply Comments last year, we directed VZ-MA to make line splitting¹²² available in Massachusetts, a decision we note is consistent with

(continued...)

VZ-MA Supplemental Application, Appdx. A, Vol. 1, Tab 1, at ¶ 138 (Lacouture/Ruesterholz Supp. Decl.).

¹¹⁹ Id. at ¶ 134.

<u>Id.</u> at ¶ 141.

¹²¹ Id. at ¶ 157.

The FCC has defined "line splitting" as requiring an incumbent LEC to permit a CLEC that provides voice service using the UNE-platform ("UNE-P") to either self-provision necessary equipment or partner with a competitive data carrier to provide xDSL service on the same line. Deployment of Wireline Services Offering Advanced

the FCC's most recent ruling on line splitting.¹²³ In its <u>SWBT Kansas and Oklahoma Order</u>, the FCC notes with approval SWBT's demonstration of a legal obligation to provide line splitting.¹²⁴ While the Department concluded that VZ-MA also has a legal obligation to make line splitting available, as clarified in both the <u>Line Sharing Reconsideration Order</u> and the FCC's most recent § 271 Order, we reached this decision only one month ago, prior to the issuance of both of these FCC Orders. Indeed, we reversed a ruling we made in September, in which we found that VZ-MA met its line splitting obligations and was not required to permit CLECs to line split in a UNE-P environment, a ruling that clearly would, if left standing, have been at odds with these later FCC rulings.¹²⁵

When the Department issued its <u>Phase III-A Reconsideration Order</u>, we expressly noted that the FCC's intentions in its <u>SWBT Texas Order</u> could be clearer with respect to line splitting. ¹²⁶ Because of the ambiguity contained in that FCC Order coupled with our recent decision to reverse ourselves on the issue of line splitting and UNE-P, we recommend that the

Telecommunications Capability and Implementation of the Local Competition
Provisions of the Telecommunications Act of 1996, CC Docket Nos. 98-147 & 96-9

Provisions of the Telecommunications Act of 1996, CC Docket Nos. 98-147 & 96-98, FCC 01-26, at ¶ 16 (rel. Jan. 19, 2001) ("Line Sharing Reconsideration Order").

VZ-MA Supplemental Application, Appdx. B, Tab 4C, at 52 (Phase III-A Reconsideration Order); Line Sharing Reconsideration Order at ¶¶ 16-21.

SWBT Kansas and Oklahoma Order at ¶ 220.

See D.T.E. Evaluation, Appdx. E at 39-41 (Phase III Order).

VZ-MA Supplemental Application, Appdx. B, Tab 4C, at 52 (Phase III-A Reconsideration Order).

FCC not find that VZ-MA fails to meet its § 271 obligations with respect to line splitting.

Indeed, on January 29, 2001, VZ-MA submitted to the Department a motion for clarification of our Phase III-A Reconsideration Order, requesting that the Department make clear that our line splitting ruling is "intended only to reflect FCC requirements regarding line splitting.

[VZ-MA] will comply with the FCC's requirement as most recently clarified in its [Line Sharing Reconsideration Order]." We urge the FCC to take into account the recent nature of both its and the Department's clarifying Orders on line splitting when reviewing VZ-MA's compliance with its legal obligations.

See Appdx. 6 at 5 (VZ-MA's Motion for Clarification of the Phase III-A Reconsideration Order, Filed 1/29/01). This motion remains pending before the Department and is, thus, an open proceeding.

APPENDIX 1

Affidavit of Scott J. Simon

I. Introduction

- 1. My name is Scott J. Simon. My business address is One South Station, Boston, MA 02110. I am currently a Telecommunications Policy Analyst with the Massachusetts Department of Telecommunications and Energy ("Department"). I have Bachelor's Degrees in Political Science and History from Northeastern University. I have been involved in the Department's review of Verizon Massachusetts' (VZ-MA's) § 271 application since November 1999. My role in that review focused primarily on evaluating VZ-MA's operations support systems ("OSS") offerings and performance measurement reporting, and on resolving factual disputes between CLECs and VZ-MA regarding the latter's provisioning of unbundled network elements. I was co-project manager for the Department's oversight of KPMG's OSS test in Massachusetts.
- 2. The purpose of my affidavit is to summarize the Department's efforts in resolving a factual dispute between VZ-MA and Digital Broadband Communications, Inc. ("DBC" or "Digital Broadband"). On behalf of the Department, I oversaw a data reconciliation effort between the parties related to two complaints raised by DBC in its comments to the FCC on the § 271 application VZ-MA filed last year. These complaints dealt with the accuracy of VZ-MA's mechanized loop qualification database ("LQD") and with the quality of VZ-MA's provisioning of unbundled xDSL loops.

II. <u>Digital Broadband Data Reconciliation</u>

3. On November 3, 2000, the Department submitted a request to VZ-MA and DBC to

participate in a meeting for the purpose of resolving factual disputes raised by DBC in its October 16, 2000 comments filed with the FCC in CC Docket No. 00-176, VZ-MA's § 271 application.¹ As part of this request, the Department asked both VZ-MA and DBC to provide records related to DBC's xDSL Local Service Requests ("LSRs") for the month of July 2000. The Department further directed DBC to submit documentation in its possession that supported DBC's claims that VZ-MA's mechanized LQD information is inaccurate and that supported DBC's claim that approximately 20 percent of the xDSL loops provisioned by VZ-MA failed during DBC's installation after passing initial acceptance testing.

4. Requested documents were received from DBC on November 7, 2000 and from VZ-MA on November 14, 2000. On November 20, 2000, a meeting was held at the Department's offices between myself and both parties to discuss the two disputed issues. At the conclusion of the meeting, requests were made of both parties for supplemental documentation to support statements made during the course of the meeting. After receiving the requested information, I reviewed the totality of the available information to assess the accuracy of the specific claims raised by DBC. My analysis of each of the DBC claims is explained in detail below.

Loop Qualification Database Accuracy

5. DBC contended that VZ-MA's mechanized LQD inaccurately classifies a significant

See Appdx. 4 for a copy of this letter.

Massachusetts Department of Telecommunications and Energy Supplemental Evaluation
Verizon Massachusetts Section 271 Supplemental Evaluation
February 6, 2001
REDACTED - FOR PUBLIC INSPECTION

percentage of loops as not qualified to provide xDSL services. DBC argued that it was able to provision xDSL service for 42 percent of the loops for which it received a not qualified response from VZ-MA's LQD by requesting manual qualification of those loops.² To evaluate the accuracy of DBC's claim, I reviewed ordering data submitted by both parties for the month of July 2000.

- on Begin Proprietary***

 ***End Proprietary

 individual orders in July 2000. Of these orders, DBC's records indicated that Begin

 Proprietary***

 End Proprietary orders (60 percent) had been pre-qualified using VZ-MA's LQD, while the remaining Begin Proprietary

 ***End

 Proprietary orders (40 percent) had to be manually qualified. After reviewing data provided by both parties, I was able to determine that VZ-MA completed provisioning on Begin Proprietary***

 ***End Proprietary (29 percent) of DBC's manually qualified orders. However, as explained below, the fact that VZ-MA provisioned xDSL loops on 29 percent of DBC's manually qualified orders does not indicate a systemic problem with the mechanized LQD.
- 7. In information presented at the November 20 meeting, VZ-MA provided the results of its investigation into DBC's manually qualified orders. VZ-MA identified Begin Proprietary*** ***End Proprietary (16 percent) of DBC's manually qualified orders as being correctly submitted for manual qualification. These loops had no

ALTS Comments, Exhibit A, Declaration of Steve Melanson at ¶ 9, filed in CC Docket No. 00-176 on October 16, 2000 ("Melanson Declaration").

qualification information in the LQD, and, therefore, could have been ordered only through a manual qualification. **Begin Proprietary********End Proprietary of these orders were provisioned by VZ-MA, representing 17 percent of the orders that VZ-MA was able to provision following manual qualification.

- 8. VZ-MA further stated in its presentation that **Begin Proprietary********End

 Proprietary (23 percent) of DBC's manual orders had information in the LQD that

 showed the loops to be qualified for xDSL services. This means that DBC submitted

 these orders for manual qualification even though it was not necessary. VZ-MA

 completed provisioning on **Begin Proprietary********End Proprietary of these

 orders, representing 44 percent of the manually qualified orders for which VZ-MA was

 able to provision service to DBC. These two subsets of orders do not reflect any

 problems with VZ-MA's LQD.
- 9. Additionally, VZ-MA was unable to provide any information regarding Begin

 Proprietary***

 ***End Proprietary (18 percent) of DBC's manually qualified orders because the data provided by DBC for this data reconciliation either did not include the service address or the address provided by DBC was not found in the LQD.

 Begin Proprietary***

 ***End Proprietary of these orders were ultimately provisioned by VZ-MA, representing 17 percent of DBC's manually qualified orders that were provisioned. However, because VZ-MA could not provide the LQD information for these orders, I was unable to determine whether they resulted from an inaccuracy in the LQD.

- Proprietary DBC manual orders, stating that the LQD showed that these loops did not qualify for xDSL service, either because the loop length was beyond 18,000 feet or because of other disqualifying factors (e.g., load coils, excessive bridge tap).

 However, despite the LQD information stating these loops could not provide xDSL service, I was able to identify in DBC and VZ-MA's records Begin Proprietary***

 ***End Proprietary orders in this category that VZ-MA was able to provision to DBC.
- 11. While this finding shows that some information in the LQD may be inaccurate, it does not show errors anywhere near the magnitude alleged by DBC (i.e., 42 percent of VZ-MA's LQD responses were "false negatives"). Rather, these orders constitute only 15 percent of the orders that VZ-MA indicated were not qualified for xDSL service, and represent only six percent of DBC's manually qualified orders for July 2000. Therefore, it is my conclusion on the issue of LQD accuracy that, while there is evidence that some information in VZ-MA's mechanized LQD is incorrect, this level of inaccuracy does not create any competitive disadvantage to CLECs in providing customers with xDSL service.

Melanson Declaration at ¶ 9.

The competitive significance of inaccuracies in VZ-MA's LQD is minimal because VZ-MA's retail representatives use the same mechanized LQD to obtain service information for prospective customers. Therefore, if the LQD inaccurately showed that (continued...)

Installation Failures

- 12. In its October 16, 2000 comments to the FCC, DBC argued that it had experienced installation failures during the months of August and September 2000 on Begin Proprietary***

 ***End Proprietary loops that had passed initial cooperative acceptance testing with VZ-MA, representing approximately 20 percent of DBC's xDSL loop orders over that period. In assessing DBC's claim, I reviewed information provided by both parties, including initial documents provided by DBC identifying its failed installations for August and September 2000, information on the trouble histories of DBC's orders provided by VZ-MA at the November 20 meeting, and provisioning logs provided by DBC on December 4, 2000.
- 13. From DBC's initial list of Begin Proprietary***

 ***End Proprietary orders,

 Begin Proprietary***

 ***End Proprietary orders were excluded from analysis

 because they were not provisioned in Massachusetts, Begin Proprietary***

 ***End Proprietary orders were excluded because they were not for xDSL loops, and

 Begin Proprietary***

 ***End Proprietary orders were removed because they

 were listed multiple times on DBC's list. These exclusions left Begin Proprietary***

 ***End Proprietary orders to be reviewed.
- 14. Of the orders remaining after the exclusions were made, VZ-MA acknowledged that

⁴(...continued)

a customer's line was not qualified for xDSL service, that response would be the same for both CLEC and VZ-MA personnel.

WZ-MA. However, due to the timing of DBC's reporting of the troubles, only Begin

Proprietary***

***End Proprietary of the verified troubles were scored as installation-related I-codes (i.e., trouble reported within 30 days of installation), and the remaining loops were scored as general repair troubles. I was able to confirm VZ-MA's assessment of these orders with the information available in the provisioning logs provided by DBC.

- 15. Of the remaining Begin Proprietary***

 ***End Proprietary orders in dispute,

 VZ-MA stated at the November 20 meeting that its records showed that Begin

 Proprietary***

 ***End Proprietary orders had trouble tickets opened by DBC

 that were closed out as either No Trouble Found ("NTF") or Customer Premise

 Equipment ("CPE") trouble. I have reviewed DBC's provisioning logs for each of

 these orders and conclude that, based on the evidence available in those logs, Begin

 Proprietary***

 ***End Proprietary have been accurately identified as orders

 without a trouble attributable to VZ-MA. However, DBC's provisioning logs for the

 remaining Begin Proprietary***

 ***End Proprietary orders show that there were

 troubles on the loop, which I concluded were attributable to VZ-MA.
- 16. VZ-MA initially identified an additional Begin Proprietary*** ***End

 Proprietary orders as having no trouble tickets on record. However, after conducting
 a further review of its records, VZ-MA reported that it had identified troubles on Begin

 Proprietary*** ***End Proprietary of these loops, including Begin

Proprietary******End Proprietary I-code troubles. Of the remaining loops for which VZ-MA reported it had no record of DBC opening any trouble tickets, I found no indication in DBC's provisioning logs of any troubles that were attributable to VZ-MA.

- 17. At the November 20 meeting, VZ-MA also identified Begin Proprietary***

 ***End Proprietary DBC loops for which the order had either been canceled, had not yet been completed, or had a trouble ticket that was canceled by DBC. Because these orders were not in service, I found no evidence to conclude that any of these loops experienced troubles attributable to VZ-MA.
- 18. Finally, VZ-MA was unable to provide any information on Begin Proprietary***

 ***End Proprietary loops identified by DBC because DBC did not provide either a purchase order number ("PON") or a Circuit ID. Because I was presented with information from only DBC on these orders, I was unable to make any determination as to the accuracy of DBC's claims with these orders.
- 19. Through my review of all the information presented by both parties, I was able to conclude that a total of Begin Proprietary***

 End Proprietary loops had troubles attributable to VZ-MA. This constitutes one-third of DBC's original claim of installation failures. However, only Begin Proprietary

 ***End Proprietary of these troubles occurred within 30 days of VZ-MA's provisioning completion and thus would be considered installation troubles under the C2C Guidelines. The remaining

 Begin Proprietary***

 ***End Proprietary troubles, while submitted by DBC on

its initial installation attempt, were not reported to VZ-MA until after the 30-day window had passed. In some instances, DBC did not perform its installation or report troubles on these loops until Begin Proprietary*** ***End Proprietary after VZ-MA had completed its provisioning of the loop. During this span of time between VZ-MA's provisioning and DBC's installation, any number of factors can cause a trouble to develop on a loop that was correctly provisioned by VZ-MA.5 20. I further found in my analysis of the information provided by both VZ-MA and DBC that, of the Begin Proprietary*** ***End Proprietary loops I identified as being troubles attributable to VZ-MA, Begin Proprietary*** ***End Proprietary of those loops were either not subjected to cooperative acceptance testing or were of questionable use for providing xDSL services according to the acceptance testing results. Begin Proprietary*** ***End Proprietary troubles that I identified as I-codes fell into this group of loops for which cooperative testing was not completed. This leaves a total of Begin Proprietary*** ***End Proprietary

One such potential factor is the reassignment of a portion of an xDSL loop to serve another order that was provisioned between the time of loop turn-up and DBC's installation. Though I found no evidence of such practice occurring in the present instance, because DBC's loops were idle between VZ-MA's provisioning completion and DBC's end user installation, it is possible that a technician could have mistakenly reassigned a portion of that loop to another customer believing the facilities to have been available. In a letter to the Department dated January 4, 2001, VZ-MA acknowledged that this possibility existed, and stated that it was implementing a procedure in which xDSL loops provisioned to CLECs would be tagged at both the network interface device and the cross-connect box to prevent technicians from reassigning portions of a provisioned loop. See VZ-MA Supplemental Application, Appdx. A, Vol. 1, Tab 1, Attach. Q (Lacouture/Ruesterholz Supp. Decl.).

loops that satisfy DBC's contention that VZ-MA has provisioned loops to DBC that pass initial acceptance testing but then fail upon installation. Therefore, based upon the totality of the evidence available to me, as described above, I conclude that DBC's

claims regarding VZ-MA's inability to provision xDSL loops are unfounded.

IV. Conclusion

- 21. Based upon the totality of the evidence before me on each of these disputed claims, I find no evidence that VZ-MA's performance toward DBC has been discriminatory.

 While there are individual instances in which DBC's claims are verified by the information available, I find these instances to be anecdotal and not representative of a systemic failure by Verizon to provide competitors with nondiscriminatory access to xDSL loop information and quality xDSL loops.
- 22. This concludes my affidavit.

I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the United States of America that the foregoing is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Scott J. Simon

Sworn to before me this $\frac{5}{2}$ February 2001

KEVIN F. PENDERS Notary Public

Notary Public

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

My Commission Expires

August 25, 2006

APPENDIX 2

I. Strike-affected data

What were the exact dates of the strike in Massachusetts? If August 6 through August 21, why would VZ-MA add 15 business days to its collocation figures to account for the strike and not 11 (i.e., why is VZ counting weekends as 'business days' - is this permitted under the business rules in the event of a work stoppage and if yes, what is the cite)? See Lacouture/Ruesterholz Supp. Decl. at ¶ 182.

Answer: The strike commenced on August 6 and ended on August 21. Verizon's collocation efforts in Massachusetts are supported by Verizon employees located throughout the Verizon territory. Although the strike in Massachusetts ended on August 21st, the strike did not end in other parts of Verizon until several days later. And, union employees did not return to work until several days after the strike ended. As a result, it was not until August 28th – 15 business days from the beginning of the strike – that the vast majority of Verizon employees supporting collocation efforts in Massachusetts returned to work.

Upon agreement between the Company and the Union representing the Massachusetts workers, employees were given 48 hours to report back to work – i.e., until August 23rd. In addition, an agreement with the remaining states, excluding New York, was not reached until August 26th and these employees did not return to work until August 28th.

Even though the union workforce in Massachusetts did return to the job on August 23rd, those employees perform only a portion of the work related to collocation. Over the past four years, Verizon has added additional employees to support the collocation effort, and for many portions of the work, Verizon has adopted a regionalized approach which aids in the timely processing of applications from application receipt through to project completion. The workforce outside Massachusetts that supports collocation within Massachusetts includes the regional processing center in Baltimore, the Customer Care Center in New York, and the Project Managers located throughout the Verizon service territory. For these reasons, Verizon used a 15 business-day interval in assessing how the strike impacted the company. In no way was the company performing on a business as usual basis for the period covered from August 6th through August 27th, and the impact of the work stoppage was felt well beyond that date. For the purposes of the analysis, the 15 business-day interval was conservative.

Has Lexecon recalculated VZ-MA's results for PR-3-10 without excluding strike-affected data? If yes, could you provide the Department with those results? See Gertner/Bamberger Supp. Decl. at ¶ 13. Were other metrics revised to account for the strike?

Lexecon's restatement of PR-3-10, as described in paragraph 12 (old business rules) of the Gertner/Bamberger Supplemental Declaration, includes strike-affected orders. The results of that calculation are presented in the left-hand column of Table 2 of their declaration. Lexecon's other recalculations of PR-3-10, as described in paragraphs 13 (new business rules) and 17 (orders complete in seven days) of the Gertner/Bamberger Supplemental Declaration, excluded strike affected orders. At our request, Lexecon has now recalculated PR-3-10 using the new business rules and including the strike affected orders. The results are displayed below:

Table 2 Revised
Metric PR-3-10
Restated and New Measures
(including strike-affected orders)

	Restated CLEC ¹	New Verizon	New CLEC
September	62.05%	53.55%	69.55%
October	64.61	72.19	78.04
November	63.41	88.39	81.55
Three-Month Weighted Average	63.38	68.72	75.62

¹ As explained above, this measure originally included strike-affected orders; it is thus unchanged from how it appeared in the Gertner/Bamberger Supplemental Declaration.

Table 3 Revised

Percentage of Orders Completed within Seven Days (Based on New Business Rules) (including strike-affected orders)

	Revised Verizon	Revised CLEC
September	68.34%	75.00%
October	89.61%	93.71%
November	92.35%	93.71%
Three-Month Weighted Average	82.84%	86.47%

Lexecon did not revise any other metrics to account for the strike. In the Lacouture/Ruesterholz Supplemental Declaration, Verizon explained recalculations it had undertaken to remove strike-affected orders from the missed appointment measurement (PR 4-04) for September, for percent completed on time (PR-4-14 through 4-18) for September and October, and for percent on time physical collocation (NP 2-05) for September through November. See Lacouture/Ruesterholz Supp. Decl. ¶¶ 69-72, 182. PricewaterhouseCoopers ("PwC") analyzed Verizon's revisions for the first two measurements and verified that Verizon correctly excluded the strike affected orders. See Sapienza/Mulcahy Supp. Decl. ¶¶ 76-92.

APPENDIX 3

Bruce P. Beauseiour

Vice President and General Counsel - New England

185 Franklin Street, Room 1403 Boston, MA 02110 D.P.U. # 99-271



Tel (617) 743-2445 Fax (617) 737-0648 bruce.p.beausejour@verizon.com

January 30, 2001

Mary L. Cottrell, Secretary
Department of Telecommunications and Energy
Commonwealth of Massachusetts
One South Station, 2nd Fl.
Boston, MA 02110

RE: <u>D.T.E. 99-271</u>

Dear Secretary Cottrell:

The Department's November 21, 2000, Order in this proceeding directed Verizon Massachusetts to file changes to its Performance Assurance Plan ("PAP"), for Department review and approval, to reflect changes to the Verizon New York PAP as may be ordered by the New York Public Service Commission ("PSC"). As the Department is aware, the New York PSC issued an order on December 15, 2000, which modified the New York PAP in several respects. Verizon NY filed an amended PAP on December 22, 2000, to comply with that order.

Although the New York PSC has not acted on the compliance filing, Verizon Massachusetts is filing revisions to its PAP to enable the Department to begin its review of the changes adopted in New York. The attached revised Massachusetts PAP contains all changes included in Verizon New York's December 22nd filing with the PSC. Among the principal modifications to the plan ordered by the New York PSC are the establishment of a DSL Mode-of-Entry (MOE) category, elimination of collocation as a MOE category, and the reallocation of dollars among MOEs and Critical Measures. In addition, as the Department directed in its November 21, 2000 Order, the Massachusetts PAP reflects the New York PSC's current treatment of EDI Special Provisions and adds bill credits for this category.

I would also note that Verizon New York filed a Petition for Reconsideration on January 16, 2001, concerning the appropriate level of disaggregation of service quality measures and scores for the Market Adjustment Scale. A copy of that Petition is attached. A decision on the Petition is pending before the New York PSC. Any changes to the New York PAP adopted as a result of PSC action on the petition or the New York compliance filing will be filed with the Department.

Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

Very truly yours,

Bruce P. Beausejour

Bruce P. Beausejour

Enclosure

cc: Cathy Carpino, Esquire, Hearing Officer

Tina Chin, Esquire, Hearing Officer

Michael Isenberg, Esquire, Director - Telecommunications Division

Attached Service List

PERFORMANCE ASSURANCE PLAN VERIZON MASSACHUSETTS

January 30, 2001

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